

RIKEN BNL Research Center

Physics Opportunities from the RHIC Isobar Run

This workshop will be held virtually.

January 25–28, 2022



Scaling approach to nuclear structure in isobar collisions

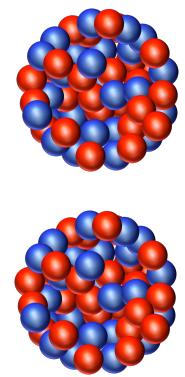
Chunjian Zhang

Jan. 25, 2022

Based on the [arXiv: 2111.15559v1](#)

Connecting the initial state to the final state: hydrodynamic response

Nuclear Structure



Imaging?

$$\rho(r, \theta, \phi) = \frac{\rho_0}{1 + e^{(r - R_0(1 + \sum_n \beta_n Y_n^0(\theta, \phi))) / a_0}}$$



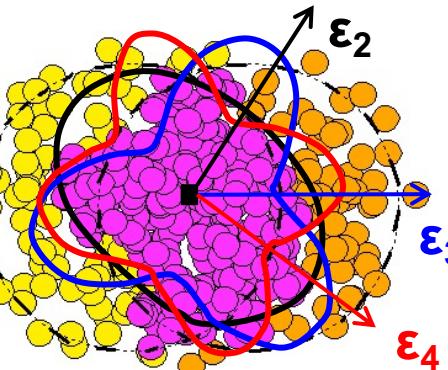
$\beta_2 \rightarrow$ Quadrupole deformation

$\beta_3 \rightarrow$ Octupole deformation

$a_0 \rightarrow$ Surface diffuseness

$R_0 \rightarrow$ Nuclear size

Initial State



Initial Size

$$R_\perp^2 \propto \langle r_\perp^2 \rangle$$

$$R_0 \quad \uparrow$$

$$a_0 \quad \uparrow$$

High energy: approximate linear
Response in each event

Initial Shape

$$\mathcal{E}_n \propto \langle r_\perp^n e^{in\phi} \rangle$$

$$\beta_n \quad \uparrow$$

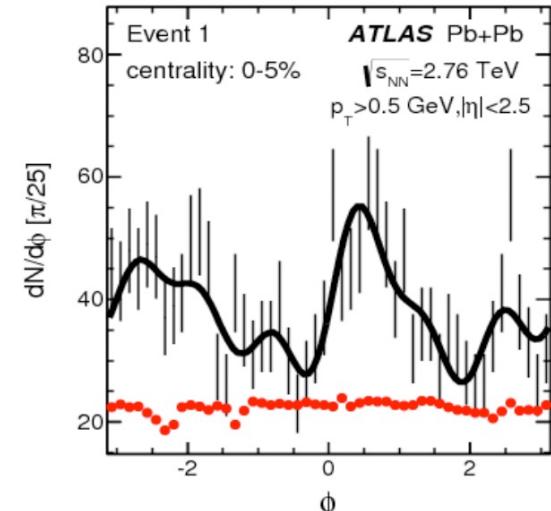
$$\beta_n \quad \uparrow$$

Hydrodynamic response

Approximate linear response
in each event:

D. Teaney and L. Yan, PRC86, 044908(2012) (Editors' Suggestions)

Produced Particle Flow



Radial Flow

$$\frac{d^2 N}{d\phi dp_T} = N(p_T) \left(\sum_n V_n e^{-in\phi} \right)$$

Anisotropic Flow

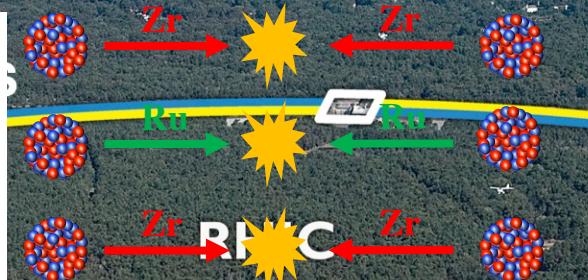
$$\frac{\delta[p_T]}{[p_T]} \propto -\frac{\delta R_\perp}{R_\perp} \quad V_n \propto \mathcal{E}_n$$

The unique isobar run in heavy-ion collisions

1) $^{96}_{44}\text{Ru} + ^{96}_{44}\text{Ru}$, $^{96}_{40}\text{Zr} + ^{96}_{40}\text{Zr}$ with same mass number (A)

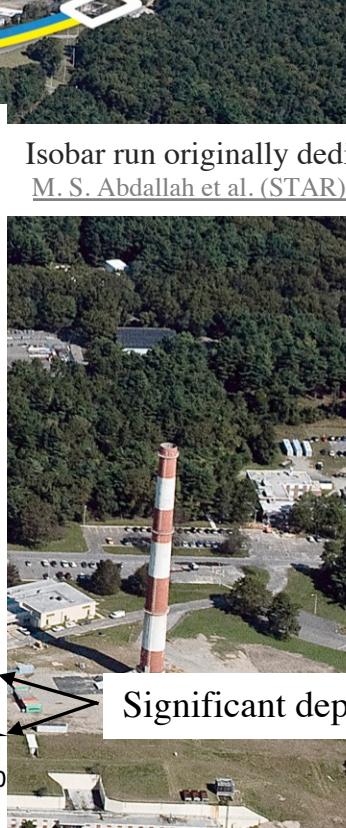
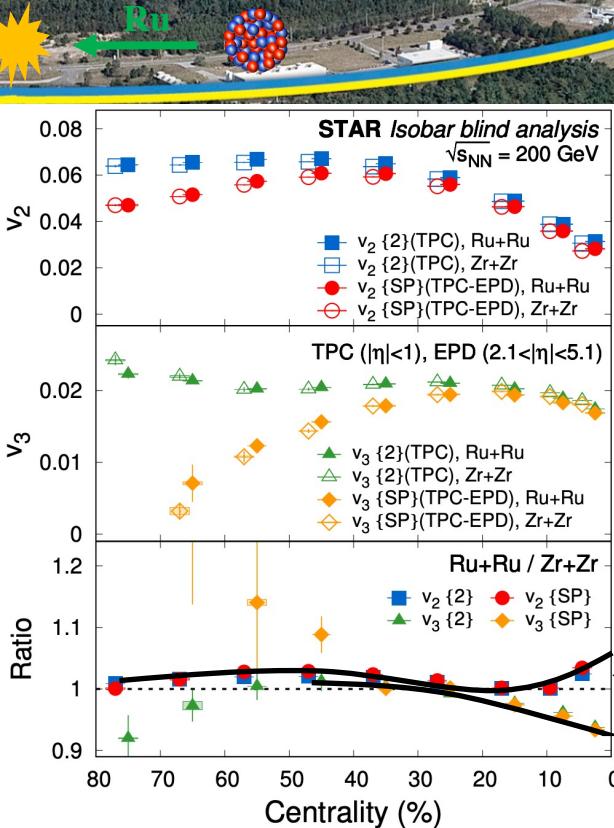
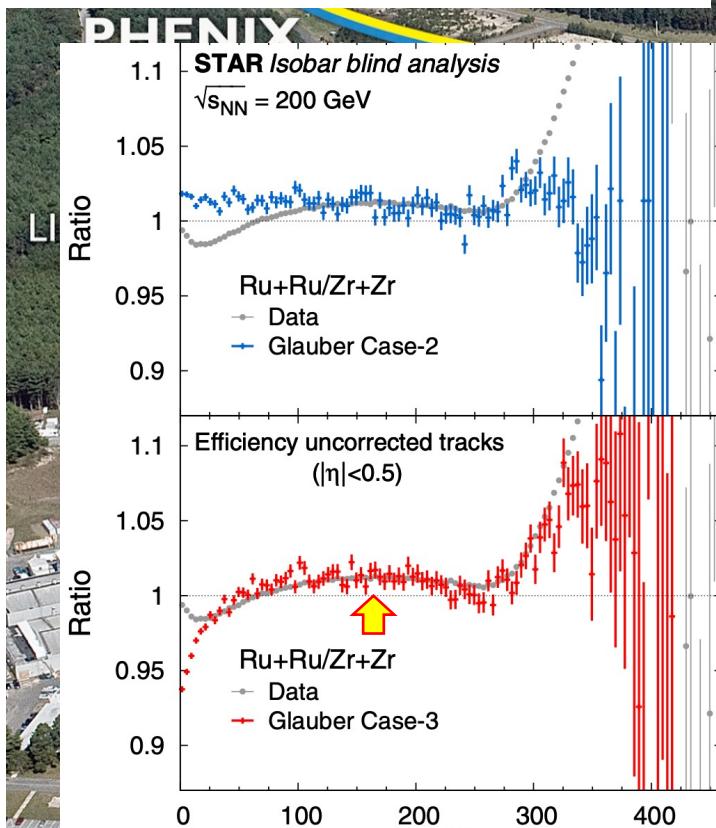
2) Special operation mode:

- Fill-by-fill switching between Ru+Ru and Zr+Zr
- Similar run conditions at STAR (minimize the systematics)



3) Ideal system to study nuclear structure:

$$\frac{\mathcal{O}_{\text{Ru+Ru}}}{\mathcal{O}_{\text{Zr+Zr}}} = ? \approx 1$$

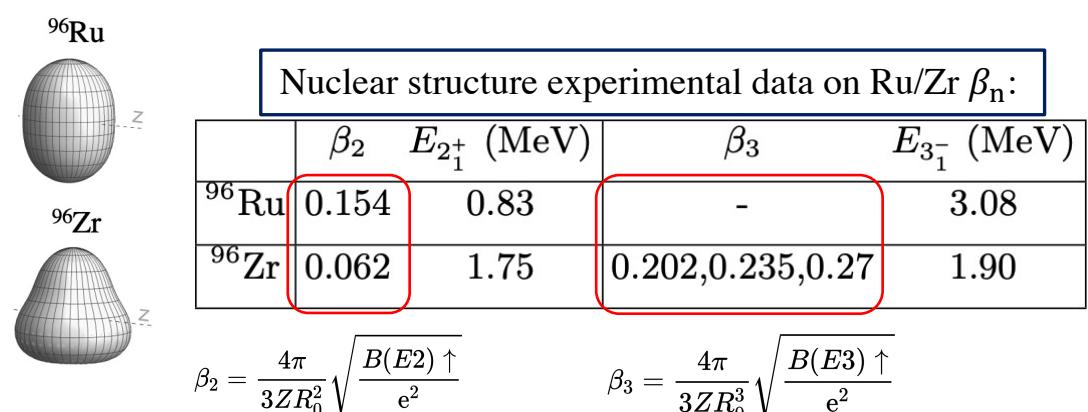
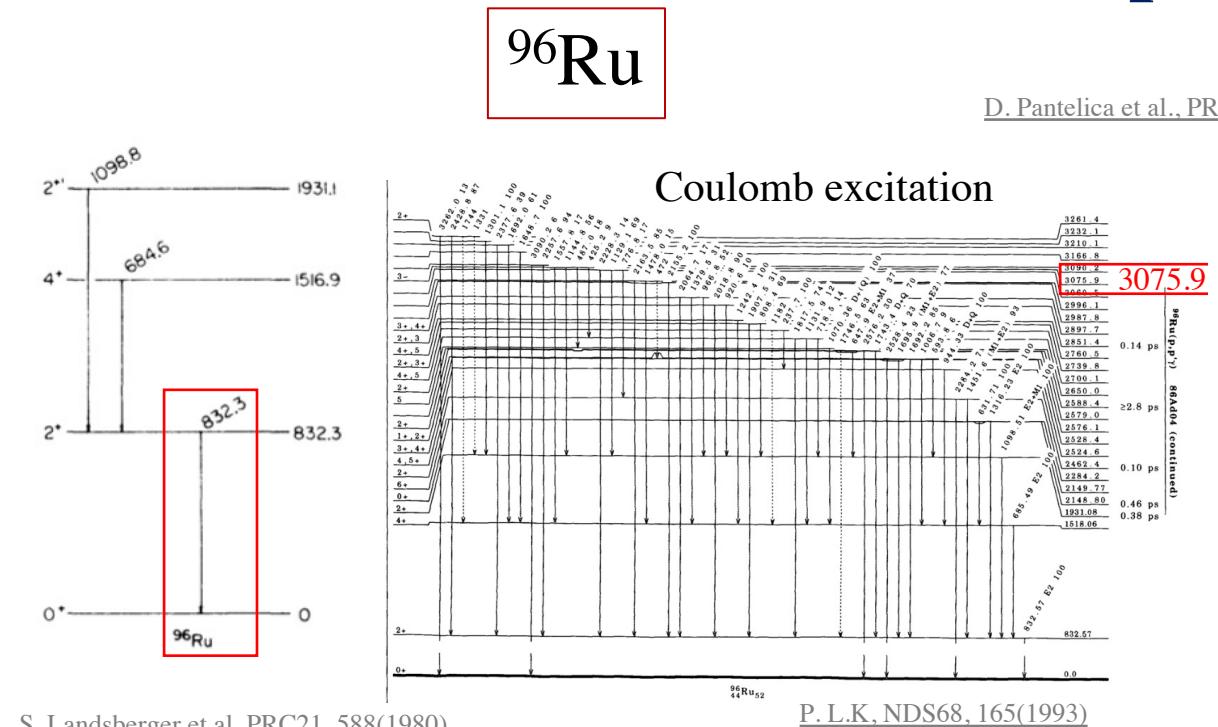


Isobar run originally dedicated to CME search
M. S. Abdallah et al. (STAR), PRC105, 014901(2022)

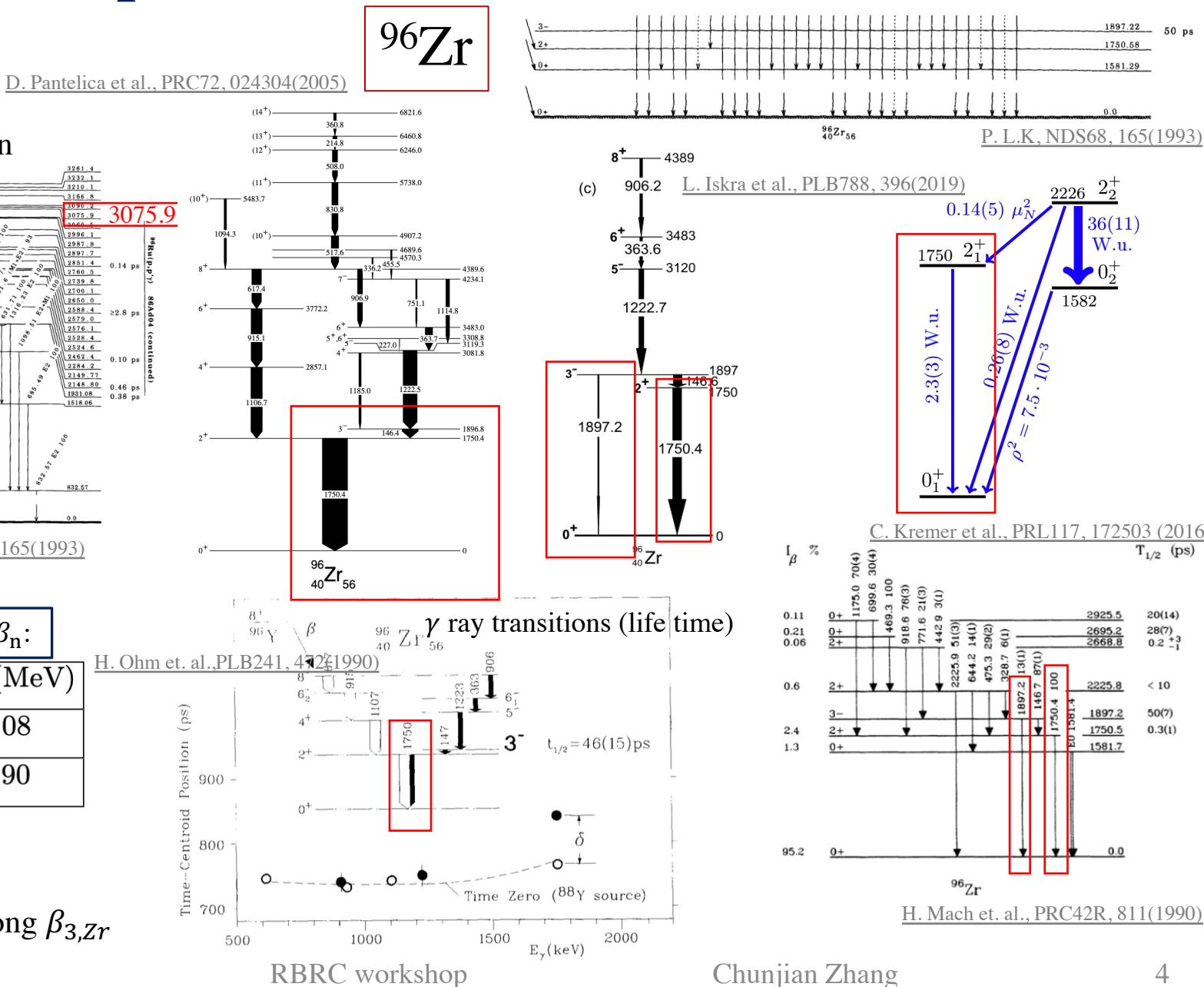
Significant departure from one

Nucleus	Case-1 [83]			Case-2 [83]			Case-3 [113]		
	R (fm)	a (fm)	β_2	R (fm)	a (fm)	β_2	R (fm)	a (fm)	β_2
$^{96}_{44}\text{Ru}$	5.085	0.46	0.158	5.085	0.46	0.053	5.067	0.500	0
$^{96}_{40}\text{Zr}$	5.02	0.46	0.08	5.02	0.46	0.217	4.965	0.556	0

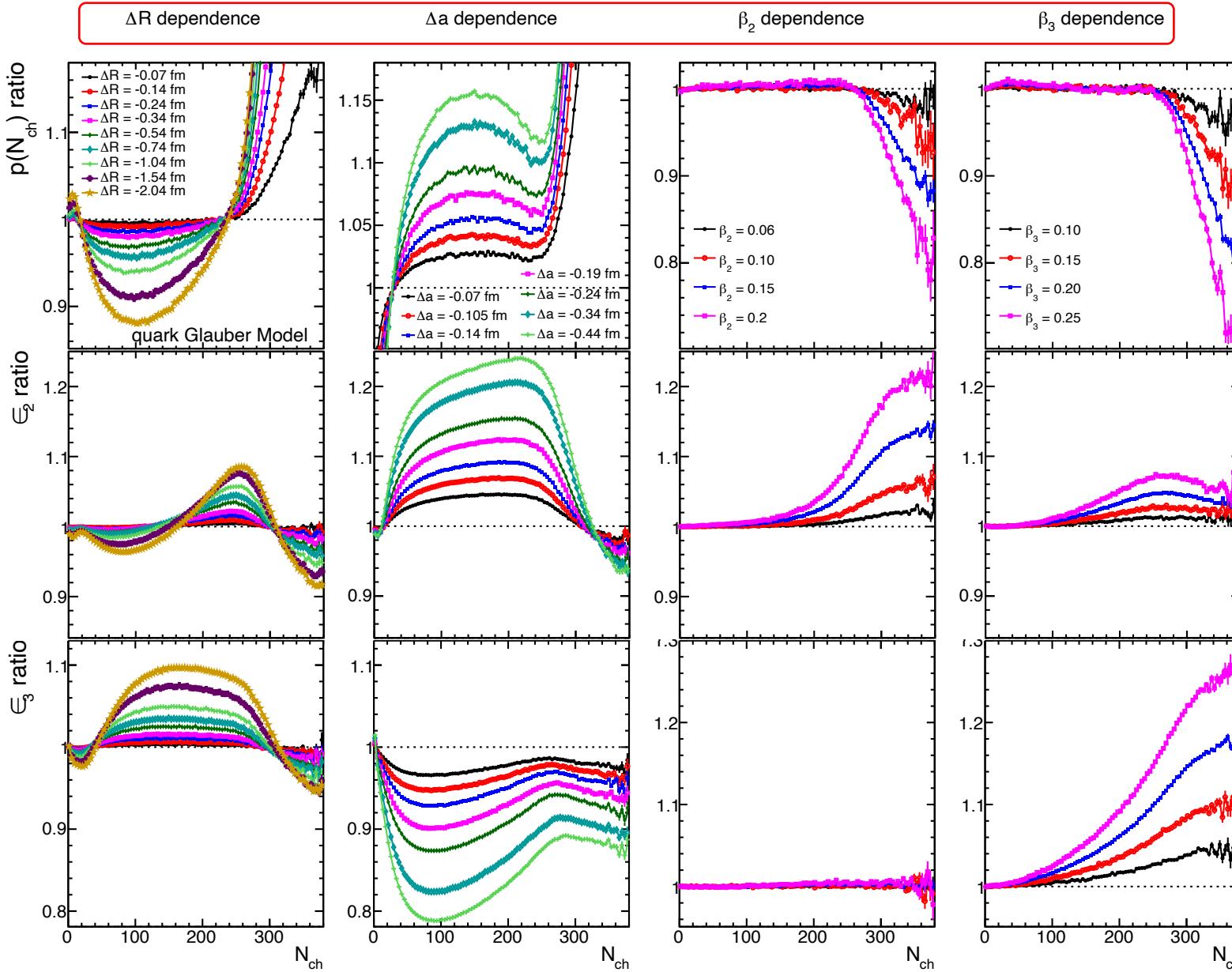
Nuclear deformation experimental data on ^{96}Ru and ^{96}Zr



Lower energy experiments show large $\beta_{2 Ry}$ and strong $\beta_{3 zr}$



Nuclear structure effect on the initial state



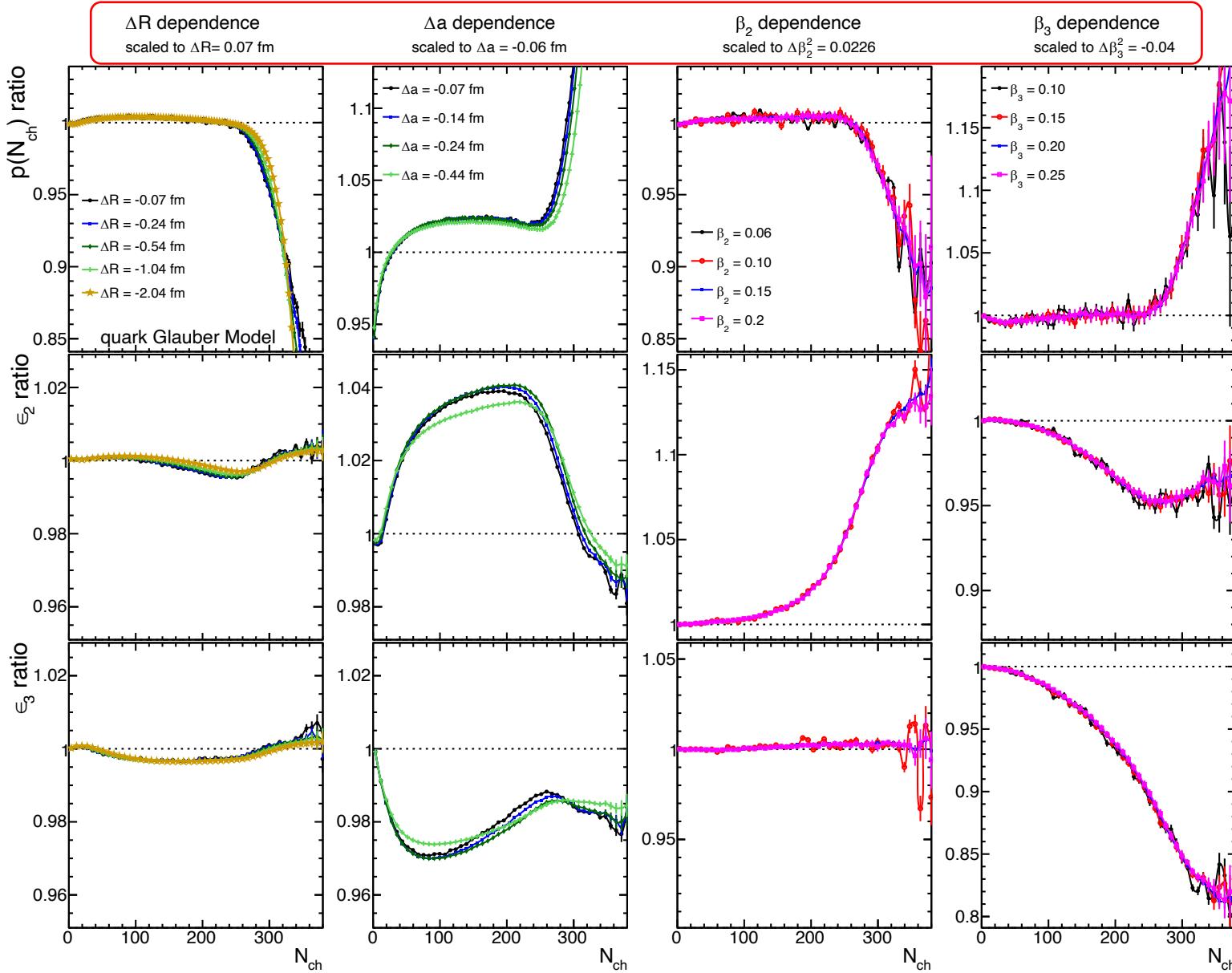
Species	β_2	β_3	a_0	R_0
Ru	0.162	0	0.46 fm	5.09 fm
Zr	0.06	0.20	0.52 fm	5.02 fm
difference	$\Delta\beta_2^2$	$\Delta\beta_3^2$	Δa_0	ΔR_0
	0.0226	-0.04	-0.06 fm	0.07 fm

R_0 has some effect with unexpected big change
 a_0 enhance it in mid-central
 β_2 decrease it in central
 β_3 decrease it in central

R_0 has some effect with unexpected big change
 a_0 enhance ϵ_2 in mid-central
 β_2 enhance ϵ_2 in from mid-central to central
 β_3 enhance ϵ_2 in mid-central

R_0 has some effect with unexpected big change
 a_0 decrease ϵ_2 in mid-central
 β_2 has no effect on ϵ_3
 β_3 enhance ϵ_3 in mid-central

Scaling approach to nuclear structure on the initial state



Is it linear?

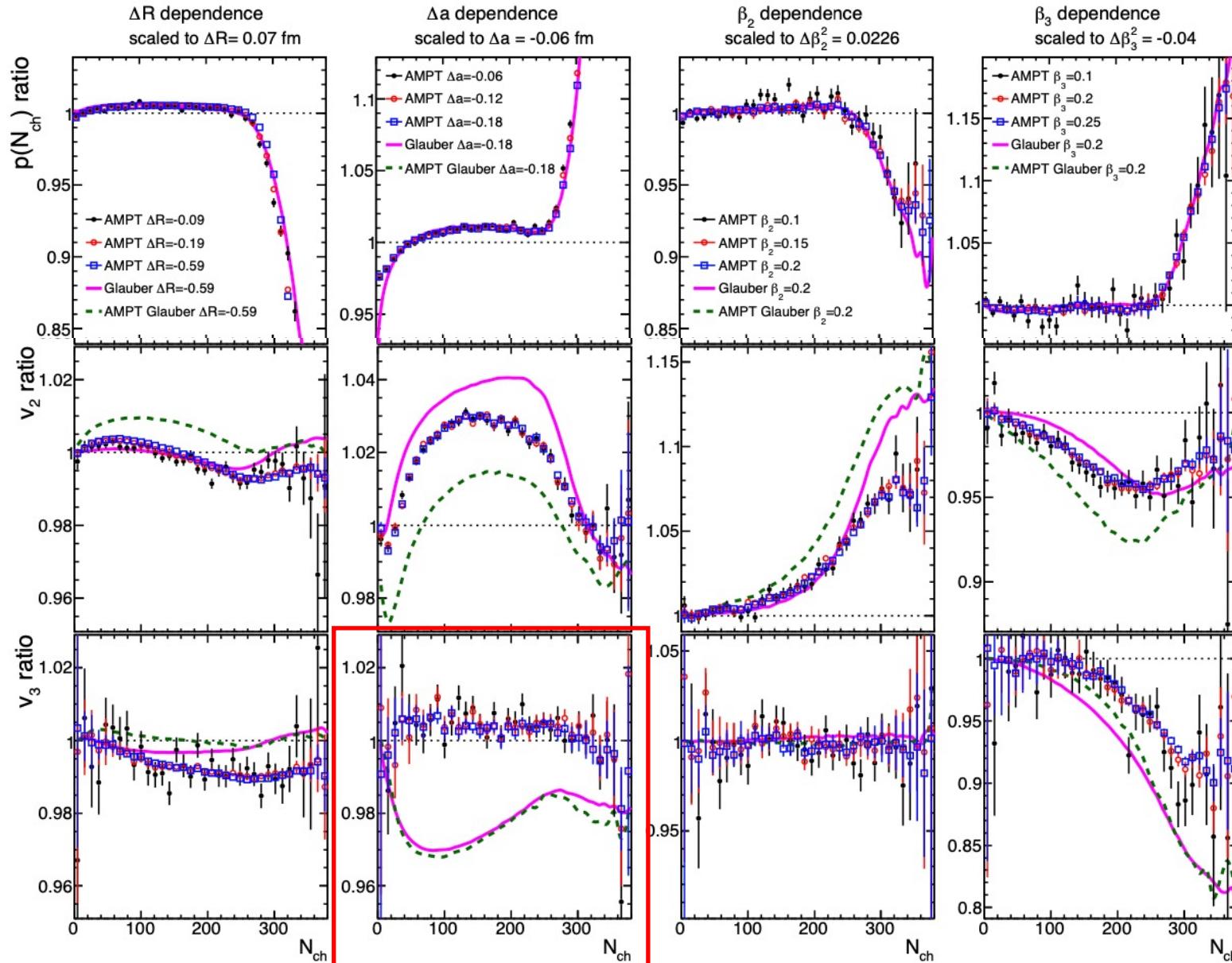


Yes, only scale a constant value

nearly perfect scaling over the wide range of parameter values

$$R_{\mathcal{O}} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{O}_{\text{Ru}}}{\mathcal{O}_{\text{Zr}}} \approx 1 + c_1 \Delta \beta_2^2 + c_2 \Delta \beta_3^2 + c_3 \Delta R_0 + c_4 \Delta a$$

Scaling approach to nuclear structure on the final state



Species	β_2	β_3	a_0	R_0
Ru	0.162	0	0.46 fm	5.09 fm
Zr	0.06	0.20	0.52 fm	5.02 fm
difference	$\Delta \beta_2^2$	$\Delta \beta_3^2$	Δa_0	ΔR_0
	0.0226	-0.04	-0.06 fm	0.07 fm

nearly perfect scaling over the wide range of parameter values

c_n can be determined more precisely by using a larger change of these parameters

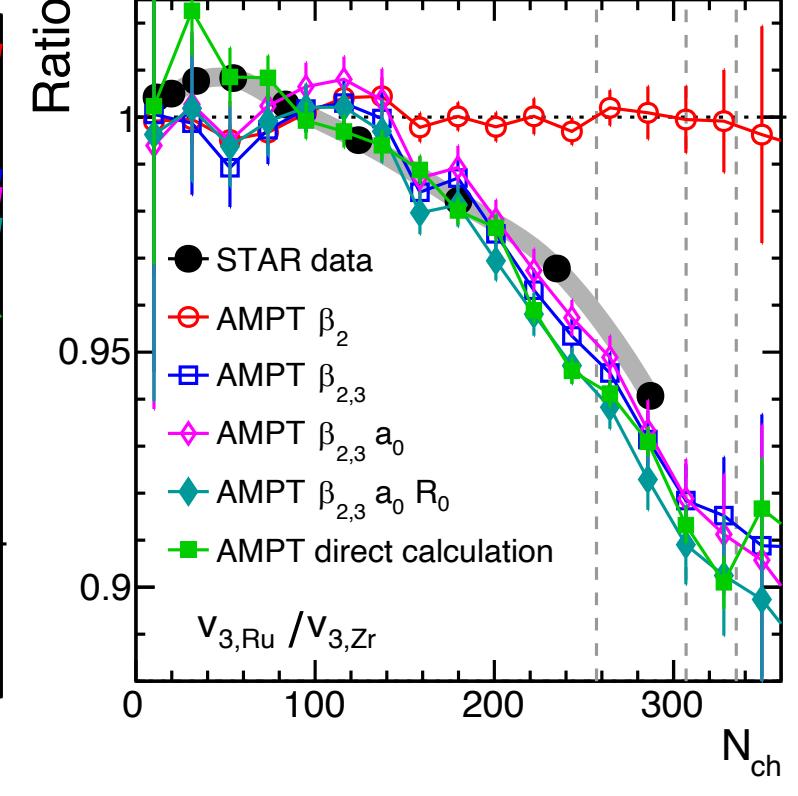
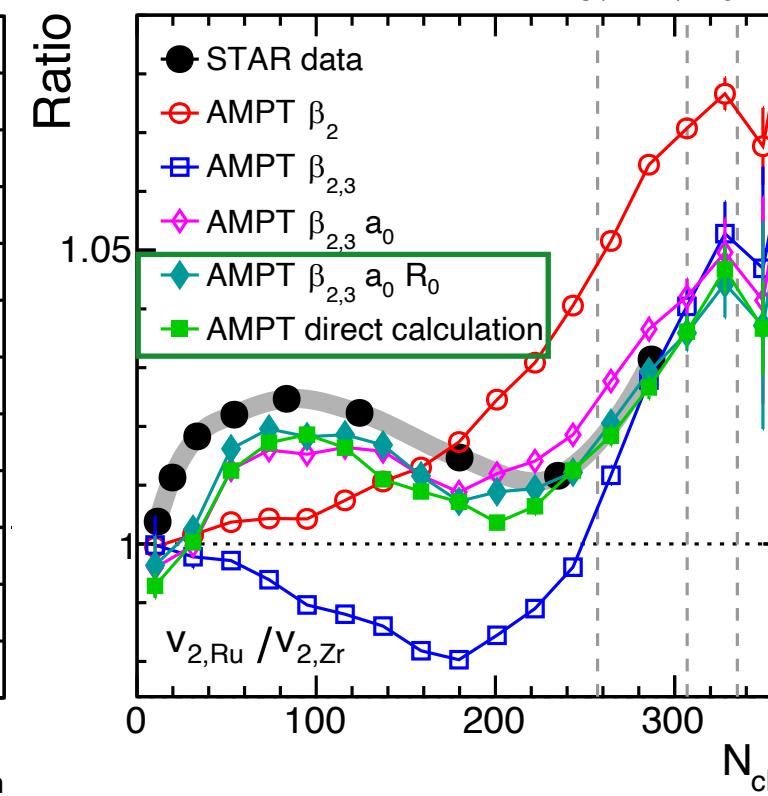
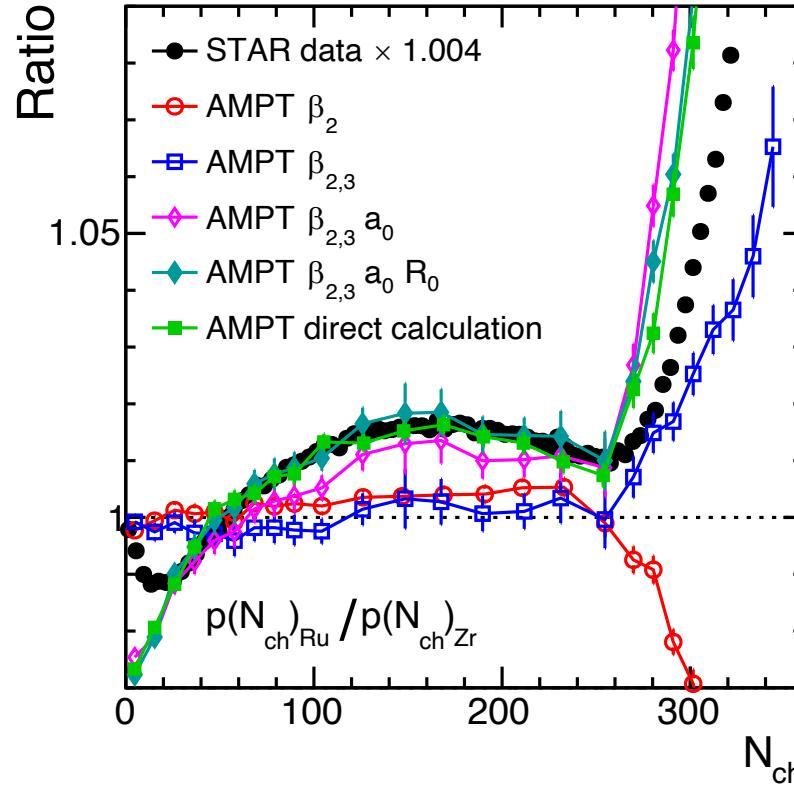
Verifies the relation:

$$\mathcal{O} \approx b_0 + b_1 \beta_2^2 + b_2 \beta_3^2 + b_3 (R_0 - R_{0, \text{ref}}) + b_4 (a - a_{\text{ref}})$$

$$R_{\mathcal{O}} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{O}_{\text{Ru}}}{\mathcal{O}_{\text{Zr}}} \approx 1 + c_1 \Delta \beta_2^2 + c_2 \Delta \beta_3^2 + c_3 \Delta R_0 + c_4 \Delta a$$

Nuclear structure via multiplicity ratio and flow ratio

J. Jia and C. Zhang, arXiv:2111.15559v1



Heavy-ion expectation:

$$v_2^2 = a_2 + b_2 \beta_2^2 + b_{2,3} \beta_3^2, \quad v_3^2 = a_3 + b_3 \beta_3^2$$

$$\frac{v_{2,Ru}^2}{v_{2,Zr}^2} \approx 1 + \frac{b_2}{a_2} (\beta_{2,Ru}^2 - \beta_{2,Zr}^2) - \frac{b_{2,3}}{a_2} \beta_{3,Zr}^2$$

$$\frac{v_{3,Ru}^2}{v_{3,Zr}^2} \approx 1 - \frac{b_3}{a_3} \beta_{3,Zr}^2 < 1$$

Cancelation expected in non-central collisions

- 1) v_2 ratio: large $\beta_{2,Ru}$, negative contribution from $\beta_{3,Zr} \Rightarrow$ Sharper increase in central
 - 2) v_3 ratio: strong decrease from $\beta_{3,Zr}$ with negligible $\beta_{2,Ru}$ distortion
 - 3) Residual effect due to radial structure, e.g., neutron skin in Zr
 - 4) No significant effect due to nuclear size
- ✓ The large differences of v_2 and v_3 suggest $\beta_{2,Ru} \gg \beta_{2,Zr}$ and $\beta_{3,Ru} \ll \beta_{3,Zr}$.

A direct algebra linked to neutron skin

Using relation for WS: $R^2 \equiv \langle r^2 \rangle \approx \left(\frac{3}{5} R_0^2 + \frac{7}{5} \pi^2 a^2 \right) / \left(1 + \frac{5}{4\pi^2} \sum_n \beta_n^2 \right)$

Neutron skin expressed by **R** and **a** parameters for **nucleons** and **protons**:

$$\Delta r_{np} \approx \frac{R^2 - R_p^2}{R(\delta + 1)} \approx \frac{3(R_0^2 - R_{0,p}^2) + 7\pi^2(a^2 - a_p^2)}{\sqrt{15}R_0 \sqrt{1 + \frac{7\pi^2}{3} \frac{a^2}{R_0^2}} \left(1 + \delta + \frac{5}{8\pi^2} \sum_n \beta_n^2 \right)} \quad \delta = (N - Z)/A$$

The difference between two isobar systems can be expressed as:

$$\Delta(\Delta r_{np}) = \Delta r_{np,1} - \Delta r_{np,2} \approx \frac{\Delta Y - \frac{7\pi^2}{3} \frac{\bar{a}^2}{R_0^2} \left(\frac{\Delta Y}{2} + \bar{Y} \left(\frac{\Delta a}{\bar{a}} - \frac{\Delta R_0}{\bar{R}_0} \right) \right)}{\sqrt{15}\bar{R}_0 \left(1 + \bar{\delta} + \frac{5}{8\pi^2} \sum_n \bar{\beta}_n^2 \right)}$$

$$\text{where } Y \equiv 3(R_0^2 - R_{0,p}^2) + 7\pi^2(a^2 - a_p^2) \quad \Delta x = x_1 - x_2 \quad \bar{x} = (x_1 + x_2)/2$$

Can obtain skin diff. from ΔR_0 Δa for nucleons and known ΔR_0 Δa for protons

Example: [H.J. Xu et. al., PLB819, 1136453\(2021\)](#)

⁹⁶ Ru		⁹⁶ Zr	
	<i>R</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>R</i>
p	5.060	0.493	4.915
n	5.075	0.505	5.015
p+n	5.067	0.500	4.965

Direct calc.: $\Delta(\Delta r_{np}) = 0.0296 \text{ fm} - 0.1606 \text{ fm} = -0.1310 \text{ fm}$

Formula: $\Delta(\Delta r_{np}) = -0.1319 \text{ fm}$ <1% difference

Conclusions and Outlooks

- 1) Demonstration: the nuclear structure effect on bulk observables.**
- 2) AMPT could describe the STAR published data quantitatively in a broad centrality.**
- 3) A new approach to constrain the collective nuclear structure parameters:**

- ✓ The final state bulk observables v_2 , v_3 and $p(N_{ch})$ follow a simple dependences on the variation of parameters:

$$\mathcal{O} \approx b_0 + b_1\beta_2^2 + b_2\beta_3^2 + b_3(R_0 - R_{0,\text{ref}}) + b_4(a - a_{\text{ref}})$$
$$R_{\mathcal{O}} \equiv \frac{\mathcal{O}_{\text{Ru}}}{\mathcal{O}_{\text{Zr}}} \approx 1 + c_1\Delta\beta_2^2 + c_2\Delta\beta_3^2 + c_3\Delta R_0 + c_4\Delta a$$

- ✓ The c_n can be determined precisely in a given model.
- ✓ The data-model comparison can precisely constrain the dependence of nuclear parameters:

$$\Delta\beta_2^2 = \beta_{2,\text{Ru}}^2 - \beta_{2,\text{Zr}}^2 \quad \Delta\beta_3^2 = \beta_{3,\text{Ru}}^2 - \beta_{3,\text{Zr}}^2 \quad \Delta R_0 = R_{0,\text{Ru}} - R_{0,\text{Zr}} \quad \Delta a = a_{\text{Ru}} - a_{\text{Zr}}$$

- ✓ Achieve to obtain the difference of neutron skin between two isobar systems:

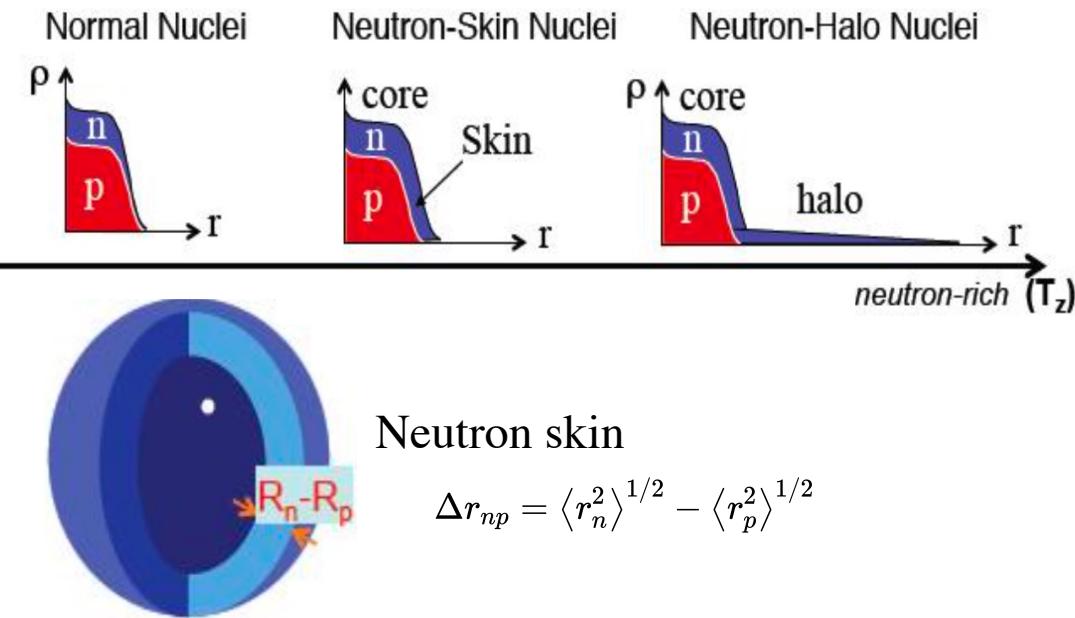
$$\Delta(\Delta r_{np}) = \Delta r_{np,1} - \Delta r_{np,2} \approx \frac{\Delta Y - \frac{7\pi^2}{3} \frac{\bar{a}^2}{R_0^2} \left(\frac{\Delta Y}{2} + \bar{Y} \left(\frac{\Delta a}{\bar{a}} - \frac{\Delta R_0}{R_0} \right) \right)}{\sqrt{15} \bar{R}_0 \left(1 + \bar{\delta} + \frac{5}{8\pi^2} \sum_n \bar{\beta}_n^2 \right)}$$

- 4) Unique opportunities by relativistic collisions of isobars as a tool to study nuclear structure.**

Thank you for listening and also many thanks to RBRC

Neutron skin or halo in ^{96}Zr

$$\rho(r, \theta, \phi) = \frac{\rho_0}{1 + e^{(r - R_0(1 + \sum_n \beta_n Y_n^0(\theta, \phi))) / a_0}}$$

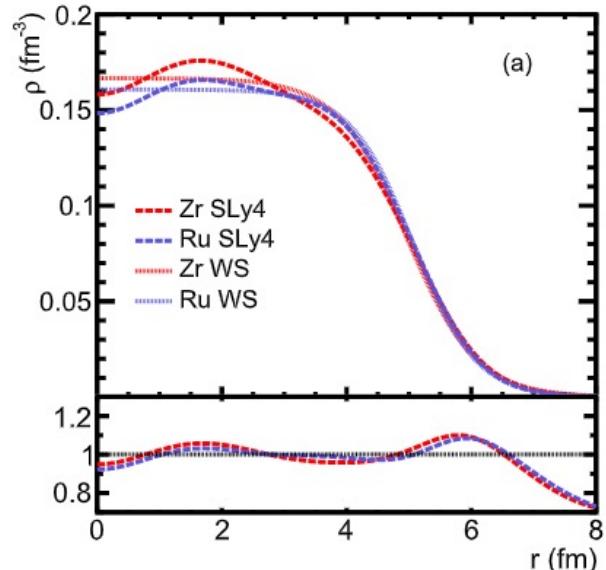
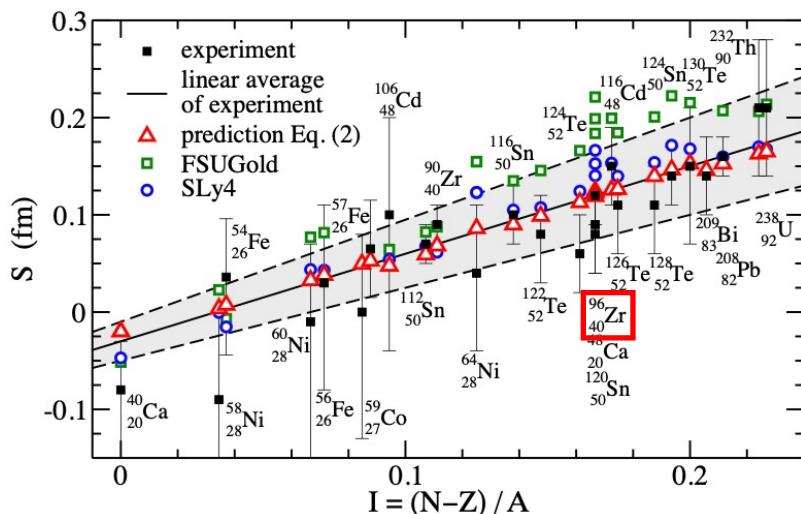
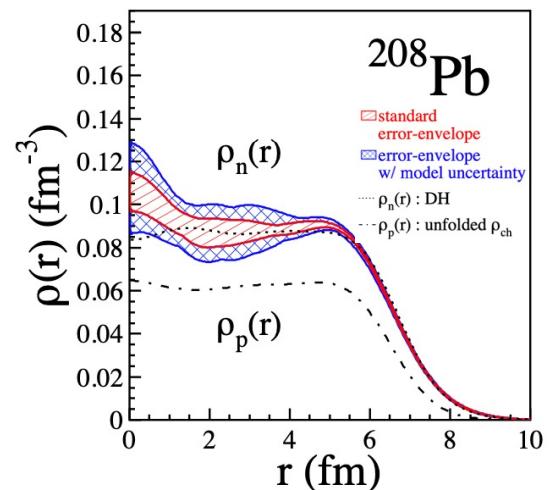


B. S. Hameed, Ph. D thesis

Fundamental importance in nuclear and astrophysics

Halo or Skin in Zr-Isotopes ?

H. Kaur et al., Nucl. Phys. 62, 350 (2017)



^{96}Zr have neutron skin

H.J. Xu et al., PLB 819, 1146453(2021)